

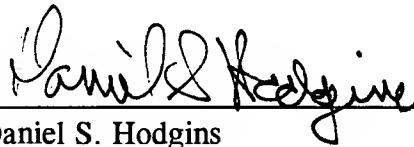
definite. The amendment clarifies that a single method is involved and that that single method involved a particular composition. It is believed that claims 1-11 now more clearly involve a single method. As amended herewith, claim 22 is clarified to be a composition comprising two aqueous gels of specified contents. Because claims 23-29 are dependent upon claims 1-2 it is believed that all these claims are now sufficiently definite, after all, a composition may include more than one subcombination. **Therefore pending claims 1-29 are distinct and definite under 35 U.S.C. §112, 2nd paragraph.**

Claims 1-32 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. §112, 1st paragraph as containing subject matter not adequately described in the specification. Applicant rigorously traverses this rejection. Preferred embodiments are described in the examples, and in great detail. Both preferred compositions and uses are depicted in great detail. This clearly enables usage by those skilled in the art, particularly in conjunction with the broader inventive concepts presented in other sections of the specification. Various salt, acid, reductant and gelling agent alternatives are presented on specification page 5, lines 1-10 and elsewhere in the specification. Once the principles, methods and compositions of the present invention are known, those of skill in the art could readily substitute analogous gelling agents, acids, reductants and/or nitrite salts, for example. In an instance, salts of substances such as nitrites have been known for many years to chemists and they could quite readily substitute other nitrite salts for the most preferred sodium nitrite prescribed herein. Additionally, an acid having a pKa between about 1 and about 4 is also described in sufficient detail so that those of skill in the art could readily identify numerous acids that would have the same affects as the preferred malic acid or

ascorbic acid. The acidification mechanism for nitric oxide generation is mentioned in the specification and those skilled in the art are thereby enabled to substitute any acid having these characteristics. Again, as with the salts, only the most elementary chemistry is involved in developing alternatives once the important principles as claimed herewith are described.

Applicant believes that the subject rejections have been entirely traversed. As the Examiner has found, there exist little in the way of significant prior art to obviate the present claims issuing as a patent. Re-examination is respectfully requested. If the Examiner has any questions or suggestions concerning this response a telephone call to the Applicant's undersigned representative at 405/232-5600 is earnestly requested.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to read "Daniel S. Hodgins", is written over a horizontal line.

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